

**Calais Roads Advisory Committee Meeting  
Calais Elementary School  
Monday, January 16, 2012**

Members Present: Mo Cerutti, Greg Pelchuk, Tim Fillbach, JC Myers, Cathy Kashanski

Guest: Rick DeWolfe

Topics/Items in the order that they came up.

1) Agendas – for our next meeting Mo will develop an agenda and post it on Front Porch Forum, at the two General Stores, and at the Town Clerk's office.

2) Mo had several excellent maps for us to use that he got from the Central Vermont RPC. We have a large "Culvert Survey Map" and a large General Highway Map. Calais has about 18 miles of Class 2 roads, 73 miles of Class 3 roads, and 12 miles of Class 4 roads. We also each got an 11 x 17 Calais Road Map and a General Highway Map also on 11 x 17 paper.

3) Greg and Rick DeWolfe got the traffic counts that have been done for Calais. We have a 2006 map titled "Calais Road Counters Information 2006" as well as sheets of counts from July 2011 on Lightening Ridge Road.

4) We also have Chapter 6 of the Vermont State Road Standards – "Local Roads and Streets" – derived from the AASHTO (federal) standards.

5) We had a big discussion on how we should focus our charge. Some points from the discussion included:

a) Perhaps one good task is to review the road-related ordinances that we have and determine what is missing

b) We could identify the roads that are the high priority for improvement and then at the opposite end of the spectrum, identify those roads where might want to not meet standards because people care about trees, lawn damage, fences, aesthetics of small roads

c) We raised the question of whether there is a job description and a set of procedures that the Road Foreman has to follow.

d) We also raised the question of whether there is a plan or procedure for tracking the amount of maintenance done and material used when and where?

e) J.C. suggests that we get to the point where we can determine for each road where we apply the standard and where we make exceptions; that we have a process to review each road and ask whether it should meet standards as written or not – based on amount of travel, historic or aesthetic features, local landowners concerns, old trees, streams etc.

6) At 8 pm we broke from our animated discussion to go into the Selectboard meeting to express concerns about our charge. The SB said that our charge is a draft, a laundry list of concerns/issues they have heard about the roads – we can modify our charge. The basic question is what do we want our roads to look like? If we take grants to do roadwork, there are certain standards and requirements that have to be met – the question has been raised – then do we want to take these grants?

Figure out the widening of roads – pros and cons – what are the choices we have? What are the consequences or positive results of various choices we make?

7) J.C. volunteered to do a draft revision of our charge, get it to us so that we can review and revise it and get it back to the SB.

8) Greg Pelchuk made a motion to accept the minutes of December 12, 2011. JC seconded it and the minutes were approved.

9) Rick DeWolfe clarified that he will be a technical advisor to our committee when we want him.

Next meeting: January 30, 2012 – Town Office, 7 to 9 pm

Minutes drafted by Cathy Kashanski.